MICHIGAN FARMER.

JACKSON,

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1843.

JACKSON CO. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

An adjourned meeting of this Society will be held at the Court House, in the village of Jackson, on WEDNESDAY, the 13th of December, instant—at 10 o'clock, A. M.

It is desirable that every officer and member of the Society should be present at this meeting, as important business is to be transacted. And each and every farmer in Jackson County is earnestly requested to attend—unite with the Society—and thus aid in advancing the cause of Improvement.

JAMES VIDETO, *Pres't.*
D. D. T. MOORE, *Sec'y.*
December 1, 1843.

URGENTLY would we solicit the farmers of Jackson County to respond to the above notice, by an attendance at the meeting therein mentioned. If they wish to surpass, or even equal, their brethren in other counties, they should make proper exertions to do so. The Washtenaw Co. Agricultural Society, at its late annual meeting, resolved to have a Plowing Match, a Dinner, Band of Music, &c., at their next Fair. Cannot the Society in this county do as much? Is there not sufficient enterprise among the farmers of Jackson County, to induce them to enter spiritedly into this matter—to join the Society, and use their influence toward accomplishing the important objects of its organization?

The success and usefulness of the Society must depend entirely upon the interest which the farmers manifest in the matter; and the farmers of Jackson county should not permit the greatest and best interest of the County and State to retrogade, for the want of their cordial co-operation. It is therefore confidently hoped that the meeting will be fully attended.

OUR readers will perceive that the present number of the Farmer does not contain the usual variety, or quantity, of original matter. We have endeavored to make amends, however, by a judicious use of the *scissors*—as will be seen by reference to the numerous articles which we copy from some of the ablest agricultural journals in America.

WE wish to obtain a small work, entitled "Bee-Breeding in the West,"—published at Cincinnati, in 1841. If any of our friends, in this vicinity, have said book, we should be glad to purchase, loan or borrow the same.

Portable Grist Mill.

THE Albany Argus publishes the subjoined account of a new mill which was exhibited at the late fair of the American Institute, in New York. If the mill here described will actually perform what is alledged, the benefit it will bestow upon the farming interests of the country, is beyond calculation. In many sections of Michigan, Indiana, and other portions of the western country, this *Portable Grist Mill* would be of immense service—and we hope it will soon be introduced into the "Great and Growing West." Its value may be conceived, when it is remembered that, in many new settlements, the inhabitants are obliged to travel from *thirty* to *sixty* miles in order to get their grain converted into flour. It is but a few years since the citizens of Jackson were obliged to go forty miles, thro' an almost impassable forest, to reach a grist mill; and those who have done this, can realize the importance of the invention below described, and the great benefit that may be derived from it, by new settlements:—

"Amid thousands of articles which are beautiful, elegant and useful, distinctions would be invidious. In truth, it would be almost impossible to particularize. Yet, among those we were enabled to examine, we marked one which, if it works as well as appearances indicate, will be deemed one of the most important improvements of the age. We allude to the Portable Flouring Mill, made at Bridgeport, Conn. It embraces one run of stone, and is turned by horse power, and the inventor will warrant that it will make as good flour as the best mills at Rochester. One of these portable mills, the cost of which is only $110, with the use of two horses, will turn off 27 barrels of flour a day. Another, the cost of which is the trifle of $60, will turn off 13 barrels a day. The construction is simple, and the machinery easily kept in order.

When the vast prairies of the great West become studded with farms and settlements, an invention of this kind will be almost priceless. There, water power is wanting; but this *desideratum* will supply the means of manufacturing flour as cheaply at their very door, and we should think, with far more economy, than by the use of water privileges. It is well known that ordinary grist mills cost from $2,000 to $5,000; but one of these at a cost of $110, would subserve the purposes of half the customers of an ordinary grist mill. It is also so portable, only weighing from 400 to 1000 pounds, that every farmer could grind his own flour on his own premises, with as much convenience as he can now thresh his wheat.

We would not have alluded to this invention, did we not believe it calculated, if it fully warrants the assurances of the inventor, to be as extensively useful to the farmers in the northern, and particularly to the millions of people in the western states, as the famous cotton gin has been to the planters of the southern states."

For the Michigan Farmer.

Fruit Blossoms Destroyed by Frost.

MR. EDITOR:—In your last number, I observed an article on the above topic, with an inquiry for some preventive against fruit blossoms being killed by the winter. My remedy would be this:—after the snow has fallen to the depth of six inches or more, to tread it down firm, as far from the tree as the roots extend; then cart on leached ashes, if to be had, if not, muck from the swamp; tread it down, throw on more snow, and tread down as before; and by so doing you will stop the flow of sap until such time as the weather is suitable for the growth of the buds.

My opinion is that most of our Peach blossoms are killed in the month of March—the weather being generally warm the first of the month, and cold the latter part. If I am correct, we then need something around trees, to keep them in a cold latitude until we pass that month.

I would also recommend throwing leached ashes around Peach and Plum trees, to prevent the worm from working in the roots.

E. D. LAY.

Ypsilanti Nursery, Nov. 20, 1843.

THE National Intelligencer has the following description of a simple invention by Dr. McWilliams, of that city, for gathering fruit:

The "Fruit Gatherer" is an instrument designed and well adapted for plucking fruit from the tree where it cannot be reached by hand. The fruit is gathered from all the branches without the slightest injury to either the tree or fruit, and in the most delicate manner. It plucks off all sizes of fruit, from a cherry to the largest apple It is easy of construction or repair, and the expense trifling. A lady or gentleman in their orchard or garden, may select such fruit as is wished and obtain it without disturbing that adjacent.—This instrument accomplishes perfectly well what has frequently been attempted both in Europe and this country in vain.

INDIGO.—This plant grows to perfection in Louisiana, and particularly in this and the adjoining parishes. A few days since in our perambulations, our attention was drawn towards a fine field of the Indigo Plant, which belongs to Antonio Vela, Esq. It is of the height of four or five feet, and presents a good healthy appearance. This is, we believe, a more profitable crop to the planter than either cotton, sugar or rice. There are several plantations in the State, particularly in and about this latitude, where the plant is cultivated, and appears to grow very well. We are pleased to find that this valuable product (in preference to cotton) begins to engage the attention of some of our planters.—*Star of Assumption, August* 19.

SUBSTITUTE FOR CREAM.—Beat up the whole of a fresh egg in a basin and then pour boiling tea over it gradually to prevent its curdling.—In flavor and richness this preparation closely resembles cream.